

Science Teaching Lab Building ranks top of Georgia State priorities

By Leah Harris
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University officials and a network of alumni are preparing to ask the Georgia Legislature for \$49.4 million in construction funding when it goes into session in January.

The funding would be used to construct the 202,000-square-foot Parker H. Petit Science Teaching Laboratory Building at Decatur Street and Piedmont Avenue. The project ranks first among six legislative priorities designated by Georgia State's Office of State Relations this year.

"We have state, federal and private support all being funneled into that building, so it's certainly being recognized as a critical facility, which will help us to serve the increasing demand for undergraduate science classes," said Dene Sheheane, Georgia State's assistant vice president for external affairs.

For several years, the Science Teaching Laboratory Building has ranked first on the university's legislative priorities, a wish list that includes requests to continue funding for university operations and maintenance costs, as well as provide money for some of the university's renovation and development needs. The list is used as a guide for Georgia State advocates who share their support of projects with legislators.

The university received nearly \$3 million from the state in 2005 to design the science building, which Sheheane says will become part of a \$140 million University Science Park complex. The complex would eventually include an Economic Development Incubator and a Science Research Laboratory Building, although the teaching facility is the only building that would be developed using state money.

In addition to the science building, officials are pushing for \$1 million to launch an Accelerated Degree Program at Georgia State's Alpharetta Center and \$5 million to replace fume stacks

Georgia State's Legislative Priorities at a Glance

Science Teaching Laboratory Building:

Officials seek \$49.4 million to fund the state portion of the construction of a 202,000-square-foot Science Teaching Laboratory Building at Decatur Street and Piedmont Avenue.

Natural Science Center exhaust stack replacement:

Request would pay for \$5 million to replace fume stacks and roofing on the Natural Science Center.

Major repairs and renovations:

The university is supporting the University System of Georgia request of \$68.2 million for major repairs and renovations. Georgia State's approximate share of the request is \$5 million.

Alpharetta Center Accelerated Degree Program:

Georgia State seeks \$1 million to launch a program through which 195 high school seniors will be able to take college coursework at the Alpharetta Center starting in fall 2006.

Board of Regents FY 2007 Formula Funds:

The university is supporting the University System of Georgia request for \$54 million to be shared by 35 schools. The funds, based on enrollment figures, will provide money for credit hour enrollment increases, operation and maintenance of new facilities, maintenance of existing infrastructure, and increased fringe benefit costs for items such as health insurance premiums.

Senate Bill 73:

The university is supporting a request for the legislature to reauthorize a bill that allows the university to carry forward certain non-state funds from one fiscal year to the next.

and roofing on the Natural Science Center.

The Alpharetta Center program would enable 195 high school seniors to take college coursework starting in fall 2006. Those students could then earn their bachelor's degree

in three years. The money would be used for a variety of tasks to operate the program including instruction, hiring a recruitment officer and renovations. University officials project 710 students in the program by fall 2009.

To help garner support on behalf of Georgia State, officials hope to work with 28 alumni serving in the state legislature, as well as the university's legislative alumni network, called AlumNet. Established in 1995, AlumNet is a group of 50 alumni residing in Georgia, who volunteer to advocate on behalf Georgia State to state legislators and other government officials. Members are appointed for a two-year term by Georgia State President Carl Patton.

"We have tried to build our advocacy efforts around having strong relationships with our state leaders," Sheheane said. "We want to share the message of the impact Georgia State is having all across the state of Georgia."

Administrators and AlumNet members are currently sharing their support of Georgia State's priorities with Gov. Sonny Perdue, who will prepare budget recommendations for the General Assembly to consider for the 2007 fiscal year. The Science Teaching Laboratory Building was No. 7 on the Board of Regents Major Capital Priority List this year, which Perdue will use to develop his budget recommendations. After the governor announces his recommendations, advocates will continue to share their support with other legislators with hopes that additional items may be added to the budget, Sheheane said.

Sheheane said all of this year's legislative priorities will improve the instruction and quality of teaching, research and service at Georgia State.

"All of these components help us to achieve being a premier urban research university, but our most pressing need is our Science Teaching Lab Building."

For more information, or to help promote Georgia State's legislative priorities, contact the Office of State Relations at 404/651-2031.

5 minutes with...

Louis A. Ruprecht,

William Suttles Endowed chair in the department of religious studies.

The department was formed in July 2005.



What need does a religious studies department fill?

It seems clear in a post-9/11 world that ignorance about various religions and varying religious beliefs can be deadly. This is not to say that knowledge of Islamic scripture or theology would have helped the FBI or CIA in August 2001, but there is far more to the study of religion than an analysis of scripture or theology. There is geography, history, politics, culture – the sorts of background issues which would undoubtedly help as we try to negotiate with a part of the world about which we remain woefully ignorant.

What are some of the department's strengths?

What impresses me is the geographic range of the faculty in this department. We have one person each working primarily on traditions of the Far East, South Asia, the Middle East, Western Europe and the Americas.

What are some of the goals for the department over the next five years?

High on my list would be [to address] the apparently never-ending squabble between religion and science. Religion and science have long been looking over one another's shoulder, interested in how what the one is doing may affect the other, for better or worse, especially concerning issues of moral importance.

What's the best part of your job?

I get to meet interesting people. I am already stunned and humbled by the diversity of our students and the rich life experiences they bring to the classroom. The same is true of my colleagues, all of whom travel, and take pictures and bring all of this richness to our common table.

Sound BITE

"Gas spending dings discretionary spending. Gas is not a problem. Poker game money is."

— **Rajeev Dhawan**, director of the Robinson College of Business' Economic Forecasting Center, as quoted in an *Atlanta-Journal Constitution* article about energy prices being more of a nuisance than a serious concern.

University revamps Web site to create unified look

New site-management system allows for easier updates

By Melanie Medina
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Imagine a book in which every chapter had been written by a different author. Each section was designed differently and created according to its own set of rules, resulting in a complete lack of cohesion from page to page.

That's the scenario facing visitors to parts of Georgia State University's Web site, which is currently comprised of departmental Web pages lacking a unified look. The Georgia State site – a result of each administrative unit, college and academic department designing and maintaining its own site – can be frustrating for visitors, including prospective students or alumni searching for specific information.

Fortunately, the site is about to be revamped from the ground up, with university officials implementing a Web site content management system called RedDot that all departments will be required to use.

"The goal of the project is to bring some consistency to the university in terms of Web development and standards," said Jarrett King,

manager of the experience design group, the IS&T arm charged with the task of implementing the system campus-wide. "These days, with so many students using the Web as their primary tool for evaluating campuses and colleges, we really want to provide the most unified experience we can, and we don't want students getting lost in our Web site."

Not only will sites designed with RedDot be more user-friendly, they'll also be easier for staff and faculty to update and maintain. Instead of creating Web pages from scratch with a HTML code, they'll use a template into which content, such as event dates, faculty bios and department news, will go. "You maintain your content pretty much the way you would with any word processor," King said.

Because the system requires little technical knowledge of HTML coding, those most familiar with a department's information can update their sites rather than assigning such tasks to a Web master. King said, "The Web master can focus on more strategic initiatives that involve integrating and building applications rather than getting bogged down in content."

Rashid Muhammad, Web coordinator for the Office of University Research Services and Administration, is in the process of porting his department's old site into the RedDot system. He said that while there is a sharp learning curve for Web masters comfortable creating pages in a more traditional manner, the new system will be better for designers and end users in the long run. "Overall, this is a good move for the Web community and the university as a whole," he said.

Muhammad's department is one of several administrative units already using RedDot. Though his department's old Web site hasn't been completely converted to the new system yet, he expects the process to be complete in early 2006. Other departments have been trained in RedDot and will soon begin maintaining their sites using the system.

No firm deadline has been set as to when all departments must use the new system – but for visitors to Georgia State's Web site, the sooner, the better.

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES

Georgia Pre-K Program students rank above national standards

Georgia students enrolled in the state's Pre-K Program made major academic progress as they advanced through to first grade, according to a recently released study by a research team headed by Gary Henry, a professor in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.

Findings from "The Georgia Early Childhood Study: 2001-04" compared four-year-old children in the Georgia Pre-K Program to children in other early-childhood education settings, such as Head Start or private preschools or daycare centers. The final study sample included 466 children from the Pre-K Program and 204 children from other programs.

"It is clear the Georgia Pre-K Program has taken root, and the fruits of the investment are showing up in terms of more language and behavioral skills for the children who attend the program," Henry said. "The gains that these young children post in their early years of schooling are significant, substantially exceeding the national norms in many cases, exceeding those that were recorded for other, often more expensive programs."

The study found that the skill gap for at-risk children has been reduced by Georgia Pre-K and makes future recommendations to continue to close the gap, including universal Pre-K, as well as similar programs for children younger than 4 years of age.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

New department of geosciences formed

Georgia State has approved the creation of two new departments: the department of geosciences and the department of anthropology. Effective Jan. 1, geosciences will be a merger of geology and geography, which was formerly a part of the department of anthropology and geography.

"Faculty in these areas have been talking for some time about the ways they can work together," said college dean Lauren Adamson. "Putting geography and geology together allows us to build on existing strengths by creating a new, integrated geosciences program."

Those strengths include a focus on geosciences in urban settings, covering both the physical and social aspects of cities. The department will have a particular interest in urban environmental studies.

Timothy La Tour, associate professor of geology, will chair the new department, while Kathryn Kozaitis will continue as anthropology chair. For now, geosciences will continue to offer separate bachelor's and master's degrees in geology and geography. In the future, the degree programs will most likely be consolidated into B.S. and M.S. degrees in geosciences.

The new department of anthropology will continue to build on its success in attracting students. In the last five years, the number of anthropology majors has more than doubled.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Grant supports research in juvenile justice special education

The U.S. Department of Education awarded an \$800,000 grant to David E. Houchins and Kristine Jolivette, assistant professors of educational psychology and special education, in collaboration with Terrance Taylor, assistant professor of criminal justice, for an initiative titled Project PRIDE (Preparing Researchers in Delinquency and Exceptionalities).

Project PRIDE's emphasis is on increasing high-quality research, teaching and service in juvenile justice special education. Annual research projects will focus on the academic, behavioral and transitional needs of Georgia court-involved youth with disabilities. The project, based in the College of Education, will pay for six full-time students to pursue a doctorate in juvenile justice special education, which includes a stipend, books and graduate assistantships.

Project PRIDE was among 20 selected from 130 proposals for funding.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Project Healthy Grandparents participants to receive nutrition education

Project Healthy Grandparents, an interdisciplinary program that provides health care and social services to grandparents raising grandchildren, is adding a nutrition education and intervention component. Beginning in

January, the division of nutrition will provide group nutrition education at bimonthly meetings. Faculty and graduate students also will provide home-based, customized individual nutrition needs assessments and plans based on each family's situation. The new program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Nutrition education and intervention are key elements in helping grandparent-headed households become and stay healthy. More than 80 percent of the PHG participants have high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease or are obese – factors that put many of their grandchildren at risk for the same conditions. Families will also be encouraged to develop and maintain a physical activity plan. After the intervention, participants will share feedback with nutrition educators to fine tune intervention plans for future PHG members.

COLLEGE OF LAW

College of Law celebrates new state-of-the-art facilities

Georgia State University's College of Law is celebrating the opening of its sixth-floor expansion in the Urban Life Building, a \$1 million project that has added more than 8,000 square feet of space to the college.

During Nov. 16 ceremonies, Georgia State Provost Ron Henry performed the ribbon-cutting honors to mark the facilities upgrade, which includes two seminar rooms, a new courtroom, 11 offices, a student lounge and two large, tiered classrooms.

The sixth-floor expansion features classrooms equipped with "smart" podiums and power and data connectivity for students, including wireless. The courtroom offers the latest technology upgrades, such as computer-controlled video cameras, high-end audio components and an automated multimedia projection/recording system with touch screen controls. The courtroom also boasts electronic litigation tools, such as evidence presentation software and case analysis software.

"These additions will enhance our program and improve the teaching environment for our faculty and students," says Steve Kaminshine, College of Law dean. "The expansion is the result of the hard work and support of many people at the College of Law and Georgia State University."

J. MACK ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Alumni gift helps create distinguished chair in marketing

Richard H. "Rick" Lenny (B.B.A. '74), chairman, president and CEO of The Hershey Company, and his wife, Susan, have pledged \$750,000 toward a \$1 million endowment at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business.

The total gift will be presented to the college this year and will help create the Richard and Susan Lenny Distinguished Chair in Marketing. The endowment will include \$250,000 in matching funds from the college.

"We are extremely grateful to the Lennys for this generous gift and their continued support of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business," said H. Fenwick Huss, Robinson dean. "Recruiting high-caliber faculty has always been a priority at Robinson, and this endowment will help us attract another nationally recognized scholar to complement the 26 outstanding, full-time professors we already have within the college's marketing department."

Dhawan presents nation's forecast

Elevated natural gas prices, rising heating costs and consumer cuts in discretionary spending will continue to plague the nation's economy through mid-2006 according to Rajeev Dhawan, director of the Economic Forecasting Center at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, in his "Forecast of the Nation" presentation.

"I expect the one-two punch from Katrina and Rita to impact GDP growth negatively by only 0.2 percent over the next four quarters," Dhawan said. "The biggest impact from the storms is taking place now, in the fourth quarter of 2005, when consumption is expected to moderate sharply from its 3.9 percent pace in the third quarter to only a 1.5 percent growth rate."

While the fallout from Delta will negatively impact Georgia's economy, Dhawan said that other positive factors will help to create par-normal growth in the state. According to his "Forecast of Georgia and Atlanta," increased tourism, small-business growth, an up-tick in health care jobs and strong growth in exports will save Georgia from "the mini disaster" Delta is going to cause.

Civil Rights leader, medical reporter to speak at graduation ceremonies

By Wendy Bigham
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Georgia State University will welcome two prominent Atlantans to its campus Saturday (Dec. 17) to speak at commencement exercises, during which nearly 1,600 students will graduate.

U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), who represents Georgia's 5th Congressional District, will address graduates from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, College of Arts and Sciences and College of Education at the 10 a.m. ceremony. Sanjay Gupta, senior medical correspondent for the health and medical unit at CNN, will speak to graduates from the College of Health and Human Sciences, J. Mack Robinson College of Business and College of Law at 3 p.m. Both ceremonies take place at the Sports Arena.

"These two individuals represent personal and professional success," said Erin Erskine, director of university ceremonies and special events. "We hope our students can learn from their experiences as they move to the next step in their lives."

Lewis, serving his eighth term in Congress, has been called "the conscience of the U.S. Congress" by Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) for his high ethical standards. He previously served on Atlanta's City Council from 1981 to 1986. By his early 20s, Lewis was already a nationally renowned civil rights leader and. Today, he is recognized as one of the "Big Six" leaders of



Commencement Speakers: U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) (left) and CNN medical correspondent Sanjay Gupta will be guest speakers at graduation ceremonies Dec. 17.

the Civil Rights Movement, along with Martin Luther King Jr. and James Farmer.

Gupta, chief of neurosurgery service at Grady Memorial Hospital and assistant professor of neurosurgery at Emory University, joined CNN in 2001 and covered the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He also reported as an embedded correspondent with the U.S. Navy's medical unit in Iraq in 2003. In 2004, Gupta traveled to Sri Lanka, where he covered the aftermath of the tsunami. He produces and anchors health-related programming for the network and writes a column for *TIME*.

At the 10 a.m. ceremony, renowned chemist Cherry L. Emerson will receive an honorary



doctoral degree. Emerson is founder of Emerson & Cuming, Inc., which manufactures more than 450 products, including a ceramic particle used by NASA for its heat shield. A life-long music lover, Emerson established four scholarships at Georgia State's School of Music in the name of his music teacher, classical music pioneer Alfredo Barili. He also provides support for the School of Music's Barili Graduate String Quartet and helped fund the music suite in the Aderhold Learning Center.

For more details about commencement, visit http://www.gsu.edu/registrar/commencement_details.html.

Villager

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University BRIEFS

Annual Giving thanks staff, faculty for contributions

This year, 76 percent of faculty and staff raised more than \$465,000 in the Faculty/Staff Campaign, organized by the Office of Annual Giving, for Georgia State University. The Office of Annual Giving conducts the yearly effort to raise money from Georgia State alumni, friends, faculty/staff and students to support the university's academic mission and programs.

Annual Giving wants to thank faculty and staff for continually contributing and says the university's campaign is one of the most successful faculty/staff fundraising efforts in the nation. Next year's campaign will run from April 1 through May 15. For more information on the Faculty/Staff Campaign, contact DeShanna Brown at 404/463-4866 or e-mail dkbrown@gsu.edu.

Georgia State University Police Department wins award, grant for pedestrian safety

The Governor's Office of Highway Safety recently awarded the Georgia State University Police Department a \$15,200 grant for two BMW police motorcycles and a device that logs data on a speed detector. The grant money also will be used to create pedestrian-safety brochures, said James Porter, a sergeant in the office of professional standards of the Georgia State Police Department.

Also, Pedestrians Educating Drivers in Safety, a pedestrian-safety advocacy organization, awarded the department the 2005 Golden Shoe Award for effective pedestrian-safety enforcement. The department was ranked first in Georgia among city, county and state departments.

Georgia State's police department employs 80 officers with jurisdiction over university grounds and 500 yards beyond any university property including near the CNN Center, Grady Hospital, Piedmont and Ellis streets and the underground.

Middle East Center changes name

Georgia State University's Middle East Center is becoming the Middle East Institute, pushing the university to the forefront of

research and teaching in this vital and growing field. The transformation from center to institute will allow it to begin developing bachelor's and master's programs, enhancing its status.

The Middle East Institute currently has 20 affiliated faculty members. Its projects include teacher training, journalism training, peace studies and biotechnology collaborations. The institute has held study abroad programs in Egypt and is adding Turkey and Tunisia this year. It also has developed a strong Middle East languages program, including courses in Arabic, Turkish, Persian and modern Hebrew.

Provost announces award winners

The provost is pleased to announce the winners of the inaugural Departmental Instructional Effectiveness Award. For departments without professional accreditation bodies, the award goes to the department of psychology. For departments with professional programs with accreditation associations, the award is shared by Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and the department of kinesiology and health.

This award recognizes outstanding work in promoting and documenting student learning. A faculty committee selected the winning departments from the reports on student learning outcomes that are submitted by all departments as part of their annual report. Departments were judged on having assessed all degree programs, assessing all students (or a sufficiently large sample), submitting the report on time, adhering to the assessment plan that was submitted, collecting directly assessed data on student learning (including general education learning outcomes), and using those data for planning changes to the program of study and/or future assessment procedures.

The dollar value of the award is \$250 for each tenure-track and full-time non-tenure-track faculty who contribute to the instructional part of a department's mission. For details about the winners, visit <http://education.gsu.edu/ctl/outcomes/outcomes.htm>.



Kennedy visit: Human rights activist and author Kerry Kennedy signs a copy of her book *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World* for Melisa Baldwin, Georgia State University's director of major gifts. Kennedy gave a lecture about violence against women at the Student Center Nov. 17. About 150 students attended the talk, which was part of the annual University Speaker Series. This year's series, which is themed "International Perspective: Human Rights, Peace and the Environment," continues with a lecture by Morris Dees, founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center on Jan. 17.



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Georgia State University
Office of Student Life and Leadership/Intercultural Relations presents

A Week of Celebration in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Global Perspectives, Grassroots Initiatives" January 16-20, 2006

Monday, January 16, 2006: Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday- "A Day On, Not a Day Off"

Occurring at various times and locations within the metropolitan Atlanta area, students, faculty, staff and community members will be encouraged to get involved and honor Dr. King by participating in direct service projects. Sponsored by the Office of Community Service and Hands on Atlanta. Contact www.handsonatlanta.org or 404/463-9043 for more information.

Tuesday, January 17, 2006: "Kingship...Leading with Ethics"- 12:30pm, Location TBA. Join us for a fun and interactive lunchtime workshop designed to explore the ethical component of student decisions. Lunch will be provided for the first 25 students. Sponsored by Leadership Georgia State. Contact 404/463-9031 for more information.



Tuesday, January 17, 2006: University Speaker's Series- Morris Dees, Founder of Southern Poverty Law Center, 3pm, Student Center Speaker's Auditorium. The topic of this speech will be "Gathering Storm: America's Militia and a Lawyer's Journey."

Wednesday, January 18, 2006: University Speaker's Series- Dr. William F. Schulz, Executive Director of Amnesty International, 3pm, Student Center Speaker's Auditorium, The topic of this speech will be "Our Own Best Interests: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All."

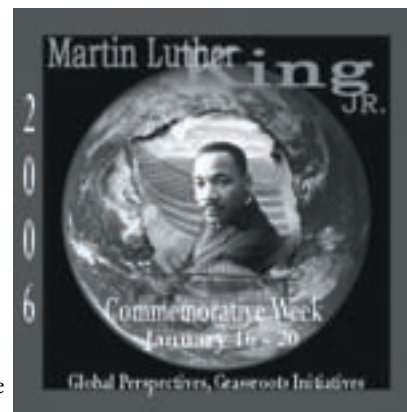
Wednesday, January 18, 2006: Project Empty Bowls- 6pm, Student Center Court Salon. This annual event will consist of a dinner and discussion regarding the topic of poverty in society. A silent auction of ceramic bowls will be held to support the event. Sponsored with the Office of Community Service, Study Abroad Programs, the Student League of Independent Potters (SLIP) and Golden Key International Honour Society. Contact 404/463-9031 for more information.

Thursday, January 19, 2006: 23rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation, 4pm, Speaker's Auditorium. This traditional program pays tribute to Dr. King and his legacy. Recipients of the 2006 Torch of Peace Award and the Hosea Williams Award for Community Activism will be announced. A reception will follow. Sponsored by Student Life and Leadership/Intercultural Relations. Contact 404/463-9031 for more information.

Thursday, January 19, 2006: Movie and discussion at the Village, 7pm, 108-109 Olympia. Village residents and their escorted guests will watch *The Meeting*, which imagines what could have occurred if Dr. King and Malcolm X had met to discuss their ideals during the height of the Civil Rights Movement and engage in an enlightening conversation related to movie's content. Sponsored by the Department of Housing. Contact 404/654-5815.

Friday, January 20, 2006: Safe Zone Workshop, 12pm, Location TBA, Workshop participants will learn how to be an ally for members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex and Queer (LGBTQIQ) community. Contact 404/463-9031 for more information.

For additional information on King Week activities, please see www.gsu.edu/~wwwicr



• **Tuesday, Dec. 13**

6 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. Norfolk State. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Thursday, Dec. 15**

Noon. Feed Your Senses. This holiday performance features professional carolers "Like the Dickens." Free. Bring your lunch or buy a boxed meal for \$5. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. 404/651-4727 or www.rialtocenter.org.

• **Saturday, Dec. 17**

10 a.m. Commencement Ceremony. Graduates and undergraduates from the College of Arts and Sciences, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and College of Education. U.S. Rep. John Lewis will speak. Sports Arena, 3rd floor. Tickets are required. Info: www.gsu.edu/registrar/commencement_details.html.

3 p.m. Commencement Ceremony. Graduates and undergraduates from the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, College of Law and College of Health and Human Sciences. Sanjay Gupta, CNN medical correspondent, will speak. Sports Arena, 3rd floor. Info: www.gsu.edu/registrar/commencement_details.html.

6 p.m. Holiday Iron Pour and Silent Auction. Edgewood Sculpture Building. Watch artists and students pour thousands of pounds of iron into the sculpture studio's furnace and cast it into molds. Free to attend. Cast and mold your own sculpture for \$10. 404/651-4227 or 404/651-2433.

• **Saturday, Dec. 17 through Sunday, Dec. 18**

3 p.m. The Nutcracker. Featuring the Rotaru International Ballet. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. Ticket prices start at \$26. 404/651-4727 or www.rialtocenter.org.

• **Monday, Dec. 19**

6 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. Hampton. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Thursday, Dec. 29 through Friday, Dec. 30**

Times vary. Women's basketball. Hyatt Regency Atlanta Invitational tournament. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Thursday, Jan. 5**

5 p.m. First Thursday Downtown Arts Walk. Take a self-guided tour and experience art featured at various venues in historic downtown Atlanta. Free. 404/651-4727 or www.rialtocenter.org.

• **Friday, Jan. 6**

6 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. William & Mary. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Sunday, Jan. 8**

2 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. UNC Wilmington. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Thursday, Jan. 12**

7 p.m. Men's basketball. Panthers vs. Old Dominion University. Sports Arena. \$7. 404/651-4629.

• **Saturday, Jan. 14**

2 p.m. Men's basketball. Panthers vs. William & Mary. Sports Arena. \$7. 404/651-4629.

• **Sunday, Jan. 15**

3 p.m. Pianists for New Orleans. Hurricane Katrina benefit concert. Kopleff Recital Hall. \$35. 404/651-INFO.

• **Tuesday, Jan. 17**

3 p.m. University Speaker Series lecture. Morris Dees, founder of Southern Poverty Law Center, will speak at the Student Center Speaker's Auditorium. Free. Dees will sign his book *Gathering Storm: America's Militia and A Lawyer's Journey*, after the lecture. 404/651-3010.

• **Wednesday, Jan. 18**

3 p.m. University Speaker Series lecture. William F. Schultz, Amnesty International (USA), will speak at the Student Center Speaker's Auditorium. Free. Schultz will sign his book, *Our own Best Interests: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All*, after the lecture. 404/651-3010.

• **Thursday, Jan. 19**

4 p.m. 23rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation. Author and journalist Kevin Powell is the keynote speaker. The Torch of Peace Awards and the Hosea Williams Award for Community Activism will be presented after the program. Convocation is in collaboration with Office of Student Life and Leadership/Intercultural Relations. Student Center Speaker's Auditorium. Free. 404/463-9722.

• **Friday, Jan. 20**

6 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. Northeastern. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

• **Sunday, Jan. 22**

2 p.m. Women's basketball. Lady Panthers vs. Hofstra. Sports Arena. \$4. 404/651-4629.

The *Villager* prints select events from the university's official community calendar, available online at www.gsu.edu. To submit an event listing, e-mail vbrown@gsu.edu or call Ext. 1-3573.

Barbara Baumstark, professor of biology, is a 2005 winner of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents' Teaching in Excellence Award representing research universities. The award recognizes Baumstark's work with Georgia State students and her role as director of the Bio-Bus program, a community-outreach service to the state's K-12 students.

Diane Belcher, associate professor of applied linguistics/ESL, was the keynote speaker at the International Symposium on ESP (English for Specific Purposes) and its Application to Nursing and Medical English Education, at Fooyin University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. She also gave invited talks at the National University of Kaohsiung and the National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences, both in Kaohsiung, as well as at Chun Shin Limited (ETS representative for Taiwan), in Taipei, Taiwan.

Carolyn Bourdeaux, assistant professor in public administration and urban studies, recently presented "Do Legislatures Matter in Budgetary Reform?" at the Association for Budgeting and Public Management Annual Conference. Bourdeaux also presented "Loose Cannons on the Deck: The Conundrum of Administrative Strategies to Address Contentious Public Sector Decision-making" at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration.

Scott L. Decker, assistant professor of counseling and psychological services, will conduct a district-wide workshop in Prince Georges County, Md., on using the Bender-Gestalt II in psychological assessment.

Naveen Donthu, Katherine Bernhardt research professor of marketing, was the guest speaker at the Boston Chapter of the American Marketing Association. The topic of his presentation was "New Developments in Conjoint Analysis."

Ray Ferreira, associate professor of hospitality, made a presentation to the Metropolitan Chapter of Club Managers Association of America at Trump National Golf Club in Westminister, N.Y. His presentation was titled "Branding in Clubs and Trends Impacting Memberships at Clubs."

English professors **Janet Gabler-Hover** and **Robert Sattelmeyer** co-edited a three-volume encyclopedia, *American History through Literature 1820-1870*, that was published Dec. 2.

Karen M. Gibler, associate professor of real estate, recently attended the CoreNet Global Summit in Las Vegas with the support of a Georgia State University Advancement of Women grant award. CoreNet Global is an Atlanta-based professional association for corporate real estate and related professionals.

The Southern Association for Women Historians awarded history professor **Alecia P. Long**'s book, *The Great Southern Babylon: Sex, Race, and Respectability in New Orleans, 1865-1920*, the 2005 Julia Cherry Spruill Publication Prize for the best work published in southern women's history in 2004.

Karen Minyard, executive director of the Georgia Health Policy Center within the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, has been appointed to the Cervical Cancer Elimination Task Force by Gov. Sonny Perdue. The group was created by the Georgia legislature and will produce two reports and then sunset at the end of June 2006.

Bruce Seaman, associate professor of economics, was one of two keynote speakers for the Argosy Foundation to address the topic, "Local Economic Development and the Arts," in Milwaukee, Wis.

Eric Twombly, assistant professor of public administration and urban studies, served on two award committees for the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action. He served on the committee to select the outstanding article in *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* and the committee to present the Gabriel G. Rudney Memorial Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action Research.

William Waugh, professor of public administration and urban studies, was appointed to the American Society for Public Administration's Katrina Task Force by ASPA President Don Menzel.

Carol White, marketing instructor, presented "Functional Role Theory and the Influence of Gender" at the Association for Business Communication's 70th annual meeting in Irvine, Calif. White also was selected to serve a third year as chair of the Student Awards Committee for ABC, an international professional organization for teachers of communication.

Katherine Willoughby, professor of public administration and urban studies, was appointed to Gov. Sonny Perdue's Procurement Transformation Governance Council.

W. David Wilson and **David W. Boykin**, professors of chemistry, were among the authors of "Out-of-Shape DNA Minor Groove Binders: Induced Fit Interactions of Heterocyclic Dictations with the DNA Minor Groove," which was chosen as a "Hot Article" for the month of November by the journal, *Biochemistry*.

Applause recognizes notable accomplishments of faculty, staff and administrators in the areas of teaching, research and service. E-mail items to mmedina@gsu.edu.

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